

# Sunday Advertiser

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SUNDAY : : : : : MAY 14.

## THE COUNTY ACT.

It is about time that something definite was done about the County Act. The preparatory work has certainly been completed, and Judge Highton and Mr. Cathcart are ready to proceed the moment an agreement as to the form of the remedy can be secured. There should be no difficulty in reaching such an agreement and prompt ruling, which the public interests imperatively demand. The act not only involves an expense of ten thousand dollars for the first election, but directly affects the Territorial revenues. A simple form of submission to the Supreme Court could be easily perfected, which ought to be facilitated by all parties, who are seeking for a decision on the merits. If a large expense should be incurred and the funds derived from taxpayers depleted, under a law that is ultimately overturned, a very serious responsibility will be incurred by any man or set of men whose stolidity or selfishness has caused or contributed to that result. If the act is valid, it should be declared valid. If it is unconstitutional and void, that fact should be ascertained at once. There is and there can be no excuse for blocking a speedy decision by mere perverseness or by sparring for delay.

The policy for county government is in no way connected with the legal issue. Party pledges can only be redeemed by a law that will stand the scrutiny of the courts. It is inconceivable that any respectable citizen, however strongly he may favor local independence, should desire anything less than sound legislation on the subject, or should be willing to see large amounts of money possibly squandered, when the whole issue can be settled within a few days and at a trifling cost.

Grafters of every sort cannot expect to be accommodated on a question which relates, not to party, but to the business and the credit of the Territory.

The latest news about the County Act is that, with the assent of the Attorney General, the Governor has adopted the views of Judge Highton and Mr. Cathcart as to the shortest and best mode of applying to the Supreme Court for a hearing. A submission is to be prepared by the middle of this week and it is hoped that the case may be argued on Monday, the 22nd instant.

Mr. Cooper assents to the proceeding if satisfied with the papers drawn by Judge Highton and Mr. Cathcart, which are also to be approved by the Attorney General before they are filed. Mr. Stewart, who is opposed to any hearing until after the county election and who was unwilling to forego the chance of a transfer to the U. S. District Court, has retired.

Governor Carter, in the interview of yesterday, adhered resolutely to the point that a decision should be obtained, if possible, before the expenditure of any considerable amount of money and without any delay that could be avoided. All he insists upon is the speediest determination that can be obtained, and he thus represents the interests of the entire people of the Territory.

The Legislature appropriated \$3000 to pay the expense of carrying a county law appeal to Washington. Nothing is provided to compensate attorneys for local work. As the \$3000 are to be expended by the Attorney General, there is ample assurance that the money won't be thrown away.

Richard Croker was nearly broken down by the violent death of his son Frank, and now comes the news that his son Herbert has been found dead, a victim of the opium habit. It is not likely, after these disasters, that Mr. Croker will return to America.

The next assassination after that of Grand Duke Sergius in Russia was that of Admiral Maziott. The list of the proscribed is growing long and it may, before a great while, contain the cross-marked name of the Czar himself.

Nan Patterson was never much of an actress before her trial, but her presence on the vaudeville stage next winter ought to be good for \$500 a night.

## DECEITS OF ANIMALS

There are a surprising number of Quaker animals—animals whose regular method of self-protection is to offer no resistance to their enemies.

Among marine animals is a starfish, says the London Spectator, often called the "brittle star," which is the despair of collectors. It seems to make it a point of pride that none of its family shall be shown in a bottle or on a museum shelf. When taken from the water this starfish throws off its legs and also its stomach. The story is told of one collector who thought that he had succeeded in coaxing a specimen into a pail, only to see it dismember itself at the last moment.

W. H. Hudson describes the death-feigning habits of a small South American fox common on the pampas. If caught in a trap or overtaken it collapses as if dead, and to all appearances is dead. "The deception is so well carried out that dogs are constantly taken in by it. When one withdraws a little way from a feigning fox and watches him very attentively, a slight opening of the eye may be detected. Finally, when left to himself, he does not recover and start up like an animal that has been stunned, but slowly and cautiously raises his head first and only gets up when his foes are at a distance. I was once riding with a gaucho when we saw on the open level ground in front of us a fox not yet fully grown, standing still and watching our approach. All at once it dropped, and when we came up to the spot it was lying stretched out, with eyes closed and apparently dead. Before passing on my companion, who said it was not the first time that he had seen such a thing, lashed it vigorously with his whip for some moments without producing the slightest effect."

Dogs show much the same tendency when they lie down meekly, with their heads down and tails tucked in, and invite a beating. Puppies are just as good at this as hardened veterans.

Some kinds of beetles, many of the woolly caterpillars which have poisonous hairs on their backs, and numerous spiders adopt similar tactics. Even the weed louse has the same trick, and rolls itself up into a ball.

In the whole animal kingdom, if anything runs away, there is always found something to run after it. The badger, which defends itself wickedly when attacked, is often used for baiting.

Perhaps the commonest instance of passive resistance is the land tortoise, which draws up its front piece and pulls in its head and legs and defies its foes by locking them out.

## AT MUKDEN.

Extract from war correspondence of a London paper: Even now the day was not ended, though the sun was sinking below a crimson horizon. The enemy was still entrenched in a strong position, stretching due east from the plain under Nihirayama. Against this hill a regiment of the Okasaki Brigade was moving from a grove on the slope of Nihirayama, 1700 meters from Lengsan—the name of the Russian position. To reach their destination, the regiment had to descend the slope and cross the open fields under a heavy cannonade. Between the two positions is a grove of pines, in which the Japanese found shelter after their first dash. In a few minutes they came out and ran to the foot of the hill. Many fell in the advance, but the survivors struck the enemy hard on the left flank, and there was another of those awful hand-to-hand fights which one recalls with a shudder. One incident will illustrate its horrors. Lieutenant Shima, having cut down several Russians, threw away his bent and broken sword and wrestled with the enemy. His groom ran to his aid, and was grappled by a stalwart Russian. They fought like wild beasts, tearing at one another. The Russian got his fingers into the groom's eyes, and tried to gouge them out. The groom freed himself for a second and, seizing the hand with his teeth, bit off two fingers. He came back without his master, a frenzied figure of terror, blood streaming from seven bayonet wounds. From his lips hung two bloody fingers! Against such men who can stand! The Russians fled with their guns. Twice men and horses with the batteries were shot down, and twice they were replaced under fire. Had the right flank of the Japanese been as fortunate as the left, these guns would have been added to the trophies of the seven days' fight. This is the short record of the Okasaki Brigade. It is typical of the Japanese infantry, and will serve to show what the Russians have to contend with.

## SMALL TALKS

BY  
SOL. N. SHERIDAN.

"It will be a blessing without qualification if the Legislature does finish up its work and adjourn this week," remarked the Capitol Sage. "Why? Ask me why! Don't you know yourself that if they stay much longer the members will not only lose their chance to direct county affairs, but will also leave little of the Capitol but the building. It seems absolutely impossible for a man to be economical with other people's money—even the public's. I suppose it is human nature. Now, there are some ordinarily honest men in the Legislature. Their dealings with their fellows in private life show it. And they have won a measure of respect by lives devoted to probity. Do these men observe the same rule in public expenditure? Not so as you could notice it, I believe. On the contrary, they save at the bung to run to waste at the spigot in a way that is certainly calculated to suggest obliquity of moral purpose, to give it no worse name."

"Why," said Senator Dowsett, rising to the discussion of the item of \$8000 in the loan bill for the extension of Kuakini to Luzo street, "that is Representative Waterhouse's short cut to the insane asylum for the Fourth District, isn't it?"

"Then it goes," exclaimed President Isenberg. "Put it in. Any road that leads to the insane asylum is a good road."

In both the Houses, it is much the same,  
The road to the asylum runs for all;  
These men who play the legislative game  
Are sure to find their senses going lame—  
E'en though the gift, at starting, was but small.

Attorney General Andrews was seen talking to L. A. Thurston on King street. Immediately after that, he visited the editorial rooms of the Advertiser. Leaving there, he stopped to speak to George Davis on Fort street. He then went to the Grill and talked in a confidential manner to George Lyneburg, there being a suspicion that the talk was about iced tea. Next he walked down toward the postoffice alley, and on the way spoke to ex-Judge Gear. Leaving him, he passed J. A. Magoon on King street at the moment when Sidney A. Ballou was riding by on a bicycle. In the middle distance, Mr. Hoogs of the Star was seen boarding a Punahou car. And all this is true, if important. But where the offense comes in, and which is the mitigating circumstance, you will have to determine for yourself, because I don't know.

### WHEN NICK WILL QUIT.

And now, if Togo sinks the fleet  
Of Rojstevsky's hoil;  
And Oyama makes things complete  
By running the Russ off his feet  
In Tartary of old—  
Why, then, perhaps, the Romanoff  
Will ask for peace, and call it off.

And if the Japs will next reduce  
Vladivostok the strong;  
And take whatever else is loose  
On Russian soil, 'twill be small use  
The struggle to prolong—  
And then, of course, the Romanoff  
Will end the war, and call it off.

"Maybe I did make a muddle of my business affairs," exclaimed Senator Achi in debate the other day, "but that only shows that I am the more capable of steering the Territory's affairs straight."

Which is a homely statement of a great truth. It is altogether and entirely more easy to manage the concerns of other people than your own. We have more experience at it, all of us.

If to our own affairs we but paid heed,  
And kept our fingers from concerns of others;  
The world would go to pot at giddy speed,  
And life would lose its savor, oh my brothers—  
Its rare and racy flavor, oh my brothers!

"It is all right!" yelled Senator McCandless with an emphasis suggestive that it was all wrong, apropos of the knock-out given the Oahu belt road when the Senate passed the loan bill. "I have got a storage battery—and some day some of these fellows will strike a short circuit on it."

And then he proceeded to use some most convincing electric language.

Electric language! Well, say, I should smile!  
You should hear Link attack the mother tongue!  
Jack Lucas isn't in it by a mile  
When our own Link lets out a link, the while  
He pays no heed to where his words are flung.

Electric language! Why, the term is mild!  
When bold McCandless runs amuck among  
The parts of speech, when he goes fairly wild  
'Twould make you deem Old Nick himself a child;  
And Link don't care a rap who may be stung.

"If the Senate would get a move on," remarked Representative Harris  
(Continued on page 9.)

### FUTILITY.

(By Fanny Gregory Singer in The Smart Set.)  
If I could wake from out this dreamless sleep,  
So calm, so still;  
If I could break the bond of slumber deep  
And feel the thrill  
Of pulsing life in all my veins again;  
If I could feel  
My heart throb once with all its old, sweet pain,  
My soul would reel  
To thine; drunk with the joy of new-born life  
I'd call to thee  
Swift reveille to all the old, dear strife  
'Twixt thee and me!  
My lips would press thine own with rapture deep;  
My heart to thine  
Would whisper all the secrets that this sleep  
Hath told to mine.  
Take heed, O ye that breathe, and, breathing, live,  
Say all thou must;  
Of thy heart's fullness generously give,  
Lest thy sad dust  
Wait for the golden words it left unsaid,  
And, lying mute, will rest not, though 'tis dead.

### WANDER-THIRST.

(By Gerald Gould in The Spectator.)

Beyond the East the sunrise, beyond the West the sea,  
And East and West the wander-thirst that will not let me be;  
It works in me like madness, dear, to bid me say good-bye;  
For the seas call and the stars call, and, oh! the call of the sky.

I know not where the white road runs, nor what the blue hills are,  
But a man can have the Sun for friend, and for his guide a star;  
And there's no end of voyaging when once the voice is heard,  
For the river calls and the road calls, and, oh! the calling of a bird!

Yonder the long horizon lies, and there by night and day  
The old ships draw to home again, the young ships sail away;  
And come I may, but go I must, and if men ask you why,  
You may put the blame on the stars and the sun and the white road and the sky!

## COMMERCIAL

BY  
DANIEL LOGAN.

Though raw sugar is still declining, it has fallen but .05 cent in the week. Among the well-informed the state of the market for the commodity is scarcely regarded as the cause for the almost total suspension of sugar stock transactions on the local exchange. There is considerable agreement with the idea previously mooted in this column, that the community at large has not a great deal of free money for investment in stocks. Certainly there is no abatement of confidence in a reaction before very long from the present triumphing of the bears on both sides of the Atlantic. With the heaviest part of the year's consumption yet in the future, Willett & Gray (New York) estimate a decrease in the world's production, beet and cane, of 826,852 tons and this upon a shortage of visible stocks in all the principal countries of more than half a million tons. The same authority shows that Hawaii stands practically alone among producing countries with an increased crop this year, one of its latest circulars having this probably authoritative message from here:

"HONOLULU, April 13.—Our last estimate of 312,000 tons of 2240 lbs. was made before the grinding commenced and the quality of the juice was known. All the mills are grinding now and the canes have proven richer in sucrose than was anticipated. The estimate has therefore been raised to 355,000 long tons."

### THE WEEK'S TRANSACTIONS.

There are some notable drops in the following brief list of transactions of the Honolulu Stock and Bond Exchange for the past week: Oloo (\$20), 50, 45 at \$5.375; Hawaiian Sugar (\$20), 300 at \$33.50, 50, 50, 8 at \$35; Oolala (\$20), 130 at \$7.50; Oahu (\$100), 5 at \$122.50, 10 at \$122, 10 at \$122.50; Kihei (\$50), 10 at \$11.50; H. C. & S. Co. (\$100), 50 at \$82; Ewa (\$20), 10 at \$29.50; Kahuku (\$20), 20 at \$32; O. R. & L. Co. (\$100), 68 at \$77. Friday and Saturday, it may be noted, passed with no sales.

Harry Armitage received a cablegram yesterday with the following San Francisco quotations: Honokaa, \$20.625 bid, \$20.75 asked; H. C. & S. Co., \$85.25 bid, \$85.50 asked; Onomea, \$36.50 bid, \$37 asked; Makaweli (Haw. Sugar Co.), \$38.50 bid, \$39.50 asked. These figures show San Francisco heavily outbidding Honolulu in prices of Hawaiian sugar stocks.

### ABOUT SOME PLANTATIONS.

The announcements of two per cent dividends by Onomea and Hawaiian Sugar, respectively, at San Francisco for June 5, and at Honolulu for June 15, have been the most cheering events of the week. Previously it had been known that Makaweli plantation (Haw. Sugar Co.) had its crop estimate advanced from 14,000 tons to 18,000 tons, and now it is claimed that the output will reach 20,000 tons. Taking it at 18,000, the directors at their meeting the other day found that with the one per cent dividend there would be a cash surplus of \$386,000 at the end of the year. They therefore declared an additional one per cent, which, for the remaining seven months, will reduce the surplus by \$140,000, but still leaving the handsome sum of \$228,000.

Pioneer at \$160 is still considered cheap, as it also is going to run far ahead of the original estimate. Some say it will have 24,000 tons. Oahu has occasioned some surprise by the low price it commands, in view of its promise of 34,000 tons this year. An explanation heard is that next year's crop will fall short of this by eight or ten thousand tons owing to the plowing in of second ratoon fields that had originally been counted for the 1906 crop.

(Continued on page 9.)

## SECURITY AGAINST SPIES

With the progressive development of the national defenses the Government has quite properly curtailed somewhat the privileges formerly extended to military and naval attaches from foreign countries. Information regarding the Army and Navy or their equipment, or concerning our ships, our shore fortifications and our system of harbor defense, which may properly be given to foreign representatives, is transmitted to them through definite agencies and under restrictions designed to guard those secrets which cannot safely be disclosed. It is possible, however, that the effect of these restrictions as applied to accredited attaches has been to encourage the use of secret agents by foreign governments desirous of fuller knowledge of our defenses, and in the natural order of things our coast fortifications and harbor defenses would be the most important objective of such emissaries. The possibility of such enterprises is indicated by the recent desertion of an enlisted man of the Eighteenth Coast Artillery stationed at Fort Schuyler, N. Y. This man was of German birth, who is described as a soldier of high intelligence, attentive to duty, obedient and respectful to his superiors and acceptable in every way except that he was suspected of being a spy. That suspicion was strengthened by the fact of his desertion and by the subsequent discovery of documents written in German which showed that he belonged to a family of means, from whom he had received considerable sums of money. The case was finally brought to the notice of the Judge Advocate General of the Army, who, after considering the meager information submitted, made the following suggestions:

"Having regard to the requirement of law that only citizens of the United States, and those who had signified their intention of becoming such, shall be enlisted in the military service, it is suggested that inspectors be instructed to examine the personnel of the Coast Artillery with a view to determine whether there are foreigners in that arm of the service. If a soldier speaks English with a strong foreign accent, it may safely be presumed that he is an alien and the burden of proving naturalization is upon him."

Brigadier General Story, Chief of Artillery, speaking generally on the possibilities suggested by the case under review, contends that the means of excluding spies from our Army are perhaps neither better nor worse than those in vogue in other armies. There may be room for increased vigilance on the part of recruiting officers to make sure that no untrustworthy or undesirable man shall be enlisted, but even if existing requirements are rigorously enforced there will always be the possibility of accepting men who want to enter the service for sinister purposes. The mere fact that a foreign-born applicant conclusively proves that he has been duly naturalized does not preclude the possibility of his being a spy. He may have taken out papers of naturalization for the express purpose of getting into the service as a secret agent, knowing that perjury and false representation for that purpose would in no way discredit him in his native country. The ability of the recruiting officer to choose the fit and reject the unfit of the applicants is partly intellectual and partly psychological. He must understand human nature as well as the regulations and be able to read them both. In a word, the intuitive faculty which enables him to reach correct estimates independently of the processes of logic and reason is one of the most valuable features of his equipment, and the degree in which he possesses it is the true measure of his usefulness to the service.

Evidently, therefore, the primary measure of security against spies must be provided by the recruiting service, and the Government, in order to aid in establishing it, has wisely stipulated that none but American citizens shall be enlisted in the Army or the Navy. This stipulation has, however, been modified in the case of the Navy to the extent of permitting the employment of Japanese and Chinese as menials and in various other capacities. Whether even that moderate relaxation of the rule was entirely prudent is a matter of doubt. There is no telling how many or if any of the Orientals employed on our warships have entered the service for the purpose of instruction or to obtain secret information for their governments. The possibilities in that direction are broadly suggested in the following story published in the New York Times of April 9:

"When I commanded the New York some years ago," said Rear Admiral Robley D. Evans, U. S. N., "I had a Jap servant with whom I was especially well pleased. He was prompt, remarkably quick to learn, and took such a deep interest in everything that sometimes, just to amuse myself, I devoted not a little attention to explaining things that he appeared not to understand. A good waiter, too, he was. Well, finally he disappeared. Some time later, when on the European Station, I made a call on a Jap battleship lying in the harbor of Marseilles. The captain met us at the gangway, and escorted us to his cabin. As we were seated he suddenly turned, threw off his hat, and whipped a napkin over his arm. 'The captain would drink!' he said in a tone I remembered. 'Kato!' I cried, jumping to my feet. 'The same,' he said, bowing. 'Captain Kato of the Mikado's navy.'"

It might be worth while to inquire whether there are any other Japanese naval officers among the courteous, faithful and extraordinary efficient Orientals now performing humble service on American warships and, if there are, what they are there for. The high intelligence of some of the Japanese employed in the capacity of servants on board some of our men-of-war certainly suggests a possibility, or as we may rather say, a certainty that they are not what they assume to be.